

Message Text

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ORIGIN MMS-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS STATE 095881

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: OGEN, CA

SUBJECT: OPRED - TREASURY REQUEST TO ADD FOREIGN NATIONAL
POSITION FOR STAFF OF CUSTOMS ATTACHE AT MONTREAL

1. TREASURY DEPARTMENT LETTER REQUESTS ADDITION OF A
FOREIGN NATIONAL CLERICAL POSITION TO SUPPORT CUSTOMS
ATTACHE A MONTREAL.

2. JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST FOLLOWS QUOTE. AT THE PRESENT
TIME, THE CUSTOMS ATTACHE, MONTREAL, CANADA IS OPERATING
WITHOUT CLERICAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT IDENTIFIED AS
EXCLUSIVELY AVAILABLE FOR CUSTOMS ACTIVITIES. THIS
SITUATION HAS DEVELOPED BECAUSE OF THE IMPACT OF THE
TRANSFER OF THE NARCOTICS INVESTIGATORY FUNCTION TO THE
DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA). PRIOR TO THE
TRANSFER, THE ROLE OF BOTH CUSTOMS AND BUREAU OF NARCOTICS
AND DANGEROUS DRUGS (THE DEA PREDECESSOR) PERSONNEL IN
MONTREAL WAS PREDOMINANTLY DRUG RELATED. THE CONSOLIDATION
OF THE DRUG RELATED INVESTIGATORY RESPONSIBILITY EXCLUSIVE-
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LY IN THE DEA OFFICE CAUSED THE LOSS TO CUSTOMS MONTREAL

OFFICE OF PREVIOUSLY SHARED SUPPORT STAFF. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CUSTOMS ATTACHE IN MONTREAL, CANADA HAVE BEEN REDIRECTED INTO OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE. SUCH ACTIVITIES GENERATE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF PAPER FLOW AND THEREFORE, REQUIRE SUBSTANTIAL

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CUSTOMS MONTREAL OFFICE ARE ON THE RISE AND, AS SUCH, RE-EMPHASIZE THE NEED FOR FULL TIME CUSTOMS CLERICAL SUPPORT. END QUOTE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. COMMENTS BY COM CONCERNING TREASURY REQUEST, INCLUDING ANY IMPACT ON MISSION ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITIES. RUSH

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